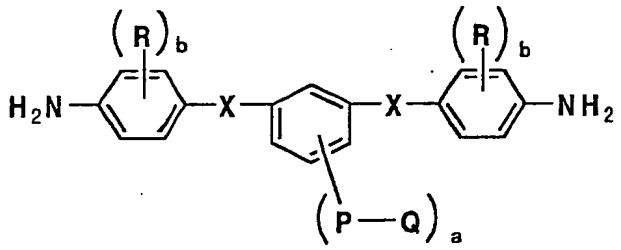
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

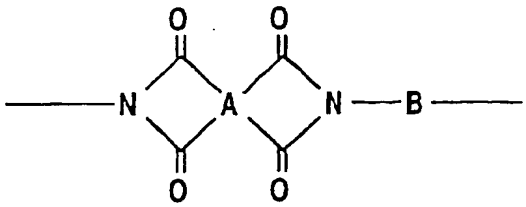
Claims 1-4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A liquid crystal alignment film containing a polyimide obtained by reacting a diamine containing at least 1 mol% of a diaminobenzene derivative represented by the general formula (1):



(1)

~~(~~wherein each of X and P which are independent of each other, is a single bond or a bivalent organic group selected from –O-, -COO-, - OCO-, -CONH- and –NHCO-, Q is a C_{1-22} straight chain alkyl group or straight chain fluoroalkyl group with the proviso that when X is oxygen, P cannot be a single bond, a is an integer of from 1 to 4 and represents the number of substituents, R is a substituent selected from fluorine, a methyl group and a trifluoromethyl group, and b is an integer of from 0 to 4 and represents the number of substituents~~)~~, with at least one compound selected from a tetracarboxylic dianhydride and its derivatives, to obtain a polyimide precursor having a reduced viscosity of from 0.05 to 5.0 dℓ/g ~~(~~in N-methylpyrrolidone at a temperature of 30°C, concentration: 0.5 g/dℓ~~)~~ and ring-closing it, and having a repeating unit represented by the general formula (2):



(2)

(wherein A is a tetravalent organic group constituting a tetracarboxylic acid, and B is a bivalent organic group constituting a diamine).

Claim 6 (original): The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein the tetracarboxylic dianhydride is an alicyclic tetracarboxylic dianhydride.

Claim 7 (original): The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 6, wherein the alicyclic tetracarboxylic dianhydride is at least one tetracarboxylic dianhydride selected from 1,2,3,4-cyclobutane tetracarboxylic dianhydride, bicyclo[3,3,0]-octane tetracarboxylic dianhydride, 3,4-dicarboxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphthalene succinic dianhydride and 3,5,6-tricarboxynorbornane-2:3,5:6 dianhydride.

8. (Previously Presented) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein

X is a single bond or a bivalent organic group selected from -COO-, -OCO-, -CONH- and -NHCO-; and

P is a single bond or a bivalent organic group selected from -O-, -COO-, -OCO-, -CONH- and -NHCO-.

9. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a single bond.

10. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a bivalent organic group selected from -COO-, -OCO-, -CONH- and -NHCO-.

11. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a -COO- group.

12. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a -OCO- group.

13. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a -CONH- group.

14. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein X is a -NHCO- group.

15. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a single bond.

16. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a –O- group.

17. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a bivalent organic group selected from -COO-, -OCO-, -CONH- and -NHCO-.

18. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a -COO- group.

19. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a -OCO- group.

20. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a -CONH- group.

21. (New) The liquid crystal alignment film according to Claim 5, wherein P is a -NHCO- group.--